

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /031 W

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O R 121215Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7294

AMEMBASSY MANAMA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

S E C R E T TEHRAN 5715

EXDIS

DEPT PASS TO SECDEF, MIDEASTFOR, CINCUSNAVEUR, USCINCEUR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, PFOR, US, IR, SA, RA, EG

SUBJECT: RETAINING MIDEASTFOR IN BAHRAIN

REF: A. TEHRAN 5694

B. MANAMA 495

1. FOREIGN MINISTRY KHALATBARY SUMMONED ME TO HIS HOME MORNING JULY 12 ON SEVERAL MATTERS INCLUDING THE QUESTION OF MIDEASTFOR CONTINUED PRESENCE IN BAHRAIN. HE SAID THAT IRAN WANTED TO BE HELPFUL AND THAT HE INTENDED TO DISPATCH AN ENVOY TO BAHRAIN TOMORROW (JULY 13) TO DISCUSS THIS QUESTION WITH GOB OFFICIALS. IN THIS CONNECTION HE ASKED WHETHER THERE WAS ANY CLAUSE OR PROVISION IN OUR HOMEPORTING AGREEMENT WHICH WOULD PERMIT BAHRAIN TO WITHDRAW GRACEFULLY FROM THE POSITION IT HAD TAKEN PREVIOUSLY REGARDING THE TERMINATION OF THE AGREEMENT. I SAID I WAS NOT ACQUAINTED WITH THE DETAILS OF THIS ESSENTIALLY ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENT BUT ASSUMED IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR BAHRAIN TO CANCEL ITS NOTICE OF TERMINATION OF THE AGREEMENT WHICH WE BELIEVED IT WAS INCLINED TO DO.

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2. I THEN INQUIRED AS TO WHETHER HE COULD TELL ME WHAT THE

THRUST OF HIS INSTRUCTIONS WOULD BE TO HIS ENVOY AND COMMENTED THAT WE HAD REASON TO BELIEVE THAT BAHRAIN WOULD WELCOME AN IRANIAN EXPRESSION OF APPROVAL OF A BAHRAINI DECISION TO PERMIT MIDEASTFOR TO REMAIN. HE RESPONDED IMMEDIATELY: "OH NO WE WANT TO GO MUCH FURTHER THAN THAT. IT IS OUR INTENTION TO TELL BAHRAIN THAT WE FEEL CONTINUATION OF MIDEASTFOR HOMEPORTING ARRANGEMENT IN BAHRAIN WILL BE HELPFUL TO IT IN DEALING WITH INTERNAL AFFAIRS AS WELL AS BEING IN THE INTEREST OF THE REGION AS A WHOLE."

3. DRAWING ON REF B I NOTED THAT THERE MAY BE SOME POSSIBILITY THAT THIS MATTER MAY BE COMING BEFORE THE CABINET AS EARLY AS JULY 13. KHALATBARY REPLIED THAT IN THAT CASE HE WOULD SEND A CABLE IMMEDIATELY TO IRAN'S AMBASSADOR AT MANAMA TELLING HIM TO ADVISE THE BAHRAINI GOVERNMENT THAT IRAN WAS DISPATCHING AN ENVOY SHORTLY TO DISCUSS THIS MATTER WITH THE GOB.
MIKLOS

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED SECDEF, MIDEASTFOR, CINCUSNAVEUR, USCINCEUR

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, NAVAL FORCES, MIDDLE EAST FORCE, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION, MILITARY BASES, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: shawdg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974TEHRAN05715
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740186-0890
From: TEHRAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740752/aaaabseq.tel
Line Count: 81
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: A. TEHRAN 5694
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: shawdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13-Aug-2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <21 FEB 2003 by shawdg>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RETAINING MIDEASTFOR IN BAHRAIN
TAGS: MARR, PFOR, US, IR, SA, BA, EG
To: STATE MANAMA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005